

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 INR-05

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8516

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INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6056

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS: 12-31-80

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF NATO SATCOM GROUND TERMINAL (SGT) ICELAND

REF: A. STATE 237376

B. USNATO 4721

1. BEFORE APPROACHING NATO DIRECTOR OF COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS (MACBRIEN) AS SUGGESTED IN REF A, MISSION REQUESTS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. IN HIS MEMO QUOTED IN REF B, MACBRIEN ASKED THAT THE US INVESTIGATE THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH WE WOULD ACCEPT CONSTRUCTION OF THE TERMINAL ON OUT BASE AT KEFLAVIK AND RESPONSIBILITY OF MANNING AND OPERATING IT.

2. OF THE SGT'S THE ICELAND SGT HAS LOWEST PRIORITY IN NATO. MISSION CANNOT JUDGE THE EXTENT OF UNILATERAL BENEFITS THE US WOULD DERIVE FROM THIS TERMINAL. WE SUGGEST THAT US WEIGH THESE BENEFITS AGAINST COSTS WE COULD INCUR BY IN EFFECT ASSUMING HOST-NATION RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SGT. CONDITIONS FOR ACCEPTING MACBRIEN'S PROPOSAL SHOULD EQUALIZE OUT COSTS AND BENEFITS.

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